

LIVE TOPICS OF THE COMMERCIAL WORLD

POST-WAR CLOTHES WILL BE LOOSER

Men's Manufacturers Foresee Important Changes—Wider Shoes Already in Vogue.

When Uncle Sam's olive drab demarcator protector vanished at Berlin and comes back to civilian life he will demand something entirely new in clothing and footwear, and manufacturers in these lines are preparing for him.

Hundreds of thousands of young men have been taken from civil life with their coats, jackets, breeches and regulation shoes to the discipline of army and navy life. As a result of this training, the manufacturers declare, these same young men will in future maintain the "military carriage," having bid farewell to the "office clerk's slouch."

This means that the physique of every fighting man of the United States will be radically changed. Chests and shoulders will be broader, backs will be straighter, waists will be smaller and by reason of long days and nights in the trenches and mud, manner over the roughest sort of country, feet will not look like the same members.

According to several prominent clothing manufacturers, the tendency will be toward loose fitting garments, as the military men undoubtedly will desire to get away from the tight-fitting coat. Men's clothing, it is thought, will be the result of buying clothes on more generous lines. Even if the present form-fitting garments remain in vogue, clothing men are of the opinion that the ex-soldiers will require more clothes to a garment because of their increase in size.

The men, who have been so long already in the civilian shoe trade, Leonard Bates of J. E. Bates & Co., shoe manufacturers, said the smart straight last shoes are now giving way to the broad last military shoes, and that there is every reason to believe that men will adopt the same type of shoe because of its comfort.

Spring styles in shoes, he said, show a marked tendency toward the rounded toe and wide last. Workmen's shoes, while always built along broad lines, are now being fashioned on the military lines. This, they think, the reason, according to Mr. Bates, that the workers are demanding military shoes for the reason that they believe any shoe upon which the Government has stamped its official approval is the shoe for their wear.

Clothes and shoes left at home by the fighting men will be much too small for them on their return to civil life, say the manufacturers. These articles of apparel will either be passed on to some smaller member of the family or represent a total loss.

This elimination of suits running into millions of dollars, the manufacturers, will furnish a big boom for the ready to wear trade after the men are mustered out of service.

Kimono Workers Make Demands.

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Week, a \$5 increase for workers on an 8½ per cent. increase for operators. A minimum wage of \$8 for the first three months, and not less than \$10 weekly after the first six months is asked.

Employers who now receive six legal holidays with pay, are asking that they be paid for election day, when they are allowed to leave without remuneration, as all the women are joining them.

From 4,000 to 10,000 workers are employed by the members of the association, which considers the demands excessive, according to one of its officers.

Milliners Using Wrong Materials.

For a few seasons now millinery designs have worked with materials not usually associated with millinery, and have, by substituting dressmaking and upholstery fabrics, seriously undermined their own industry.

Ever since dry legislation has put up the bars on the bars of so many States it has been a more or less open secret among buyers in this and other cities that a portion of the stock in a packing case would prove a potent factor in holding trade. In some cases the whiskey was a "big" part of the merchandise. Sometimes the booze was ordered by the customer on the mail-order system.

Not long ago the head of one of the largest resident buyer firms received an indignant letter from a Virginia patron complaining that the last shipment of goods had come in a packing case, and advised that it had been his custom to slip a bottle of John Barleycorn into his customers' shipments ever and anon when the customer was not able to purchase it in the old home town. The question now is whether the liquor was a treat or an order. Neither does it indicate that the liquor was ever returned to the sender.

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Investigation brought the fact to light that the Virginia man's representative had fixed up a little deal with the packing house, and whereby the whiskey was to be sent along regularly in consideration of a check sent to the clerk, including a private raked off for the latter.

For some reason the clerk had not received "his" and as a result had not included the whiskey. The man lost his job and the buyer a customer.

Urges Care in Soldier Gifts.

Knitting of sweaters and mufflers and vests and hats and things for soldiers is a laudable sentiment and should be encouraged, but some system should be followed in presenting these gifts according to a man in close touch with army relief and welfare work.

Owing to duplication in distributing these articles, the man said, "practically wasted," he said yesterday. "Some soldiers have received as many as four or five sweaters or helmets, while others have received none. I understand some organizations are giving enlisted men sweaters on arrival at various points, apparently without considering whether they are already supplied."

Moreover, the relatives of many of the men now in the service are providing their kin with these comforts, and in view of the distribution is further duplication, with the result that sweaters are at times thrown away discarded and valuable and much-needed wool is wasted."

As a corrective and conservative measure he suggests that organizations make a survey of the amount about the men's outfit before distributing sweaters, etc. He also suggests that men in the service be requested to turn excess sweaters and mufflers over to the distributing organizations, so that extra garments may be given to men who are not so fortunate.

Leather Market Is Perturbed.

Special Despatch to Tax Six.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—The usual quieting influence over the trade is being exercised by the holidays, but underneath a quiet surface there are important questions which affect the trade. The latest proposition involving the regulation of the distribution of imported raw hides and skins is one which cannot be construed as altogether agreeable.

There are several large concerns which have established connections abroad which they wish to maintain as sources of supply, and through their fair treatment of their shippers they obtain good services. Then there are concerns which have handled their importations of skins in a manner distasteful to shippers. That, with many other reasons, indicates that Government regulation, except so far as the necessities of the army are concerned, is open to debate according to many dealers.

The general result of these new con-

Wanamaker Workers to Get \$400,000 Extra

EMPLOYEES of the John Wanamaker stores are to be classified according to their importance during the coming year, and those stores are to be averaged. A fund of \$400,000 is virtually to be set aside to be distributed in extra compensation.

The plan is ostensibly a method of sharing profits, but under the signature of John Wanamaker the explanation of the plan is that it will not permit the withdrawal of \$400,000 the balance lacking will be taken "out of the pockets" of the firm. Nor will \$400,000 be the maximum amount, for it conversely profits are large the extra compensation will be increased.

Frivolous Favorite for Soles.

Narrow, wale and twilled materials, particularly taffetaes, are the favorite for suits or tailored dresses. If sales to manufacturers from a prominent fabric house may be used as a guide.

Buyers in the City.

Ready to Wear.

BOSTON.—E. T. Shattuck, Co., Miss L. Schager (coats and suits), 122 West 23d Street.

CINCINNATI.—Women's Manufacturing Co., Bernstein (women's spring coats and dresses), 1100 Spring Street.

ERIC P. D. Fleming Co., R. D. Fleming ready to wear, 404 Fourth Avenue.

HARTFORD.—Allen Sage & Co., Miss O'Donnell (infants' department, misses' coats, gowns, hats, accessories), 404 Fourth Avenue, 405 Fifth Avenue.

KANSAS CITY.—New York Store, Mrs. R. Frank (waists), 122 West 22d Street.

LEADVILLE.—Kresge, H. K. Kress (men's suits, coats and hats), 1100 Harrison.

MEMPHIS.—P. H. Vaughan (men's suits, coats, hats, fur), 1100 Madison.

NEW YORK.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

PITTSBURGH.—Broadway, Clark and Sult Co., M. H. Rosenbaum (spring lines, dresses, coats, coats and skirts), 1100 Broadway.

PROVIDENCE.—Broadway, Clark and Sult Co., M. H. Rosenbaum (coats, coats and skirts, furs, hats and petticoats), 1100 Broadway.

Dry Goods.

BALTIMORE.—John Wanamaker (dry goods and notions), Broadway Central Hotel.

BUFFALO.—N. W. Carson & Wilson, 1100 Franklin.

HOTEL IMPERIAL.—Hotel Imperial.

KNOXVILLE.—Tenn. Dept. of Commerce (dry goods), 415 Market.

OAKWOOD.—H. W. Vaughan (men's suits, coats, hats, fur), 1100 Madison.

OVERLAND PARK.—K. S. W. Anderson, J. W. Coors (coat, suits), 404 Fourth Avenue.

PITTSBURGH.—Broadway, Clark and Sult Co., M. H. Rosenbaum (coats, coats and skirts, furs, hats and petticoats), 1100 Broadway.

PROVIDENCE.—Broadway, Clark and Sult Co., M. H. Rosenbaum (coats, coats and skirts, furs, hats and petticoats), 1100 Broadway.

SAFETY VALVE.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

SPRINGFIELD.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

ST. LOUIS.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

SYRACUSE.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

WICHITA.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

WILMINGTON.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

WILLISTON.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

WYOMING.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

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Installs New Bonus Plan.

Special Despatch to Tax Six.

SACRAMENTO, Dec. 30.—The Sun Mills have inaugurated a plan which will be carried voluntarily to sustain conditions. The payment is to be made weekly on the wages received by the employees during the past six months, but only provided they have been steadily and regularly at work.

The amount of the bonus, which has just been made, was 4 per cent. on the wages of the past six months. In addition to this every employee was presented with a war savings fund thrift card with a stamp attached.

School Girls Seek Work.

Two hundred and fifty girls of the Little Bicham High School are in urgent need of work after school hours. According to Mrs. Charles L. Tiffany, publicity chairman of the Mayor's Committee of Women on National Defense.

Some of the girls have had special training in dress and costume illustrating, in pastel and color sketching, clothing, paper work and allied arts. They ask nothing more than a few cents an hour up for their services.

Hat Makers Get Increase.

According to union reports, an agreement has been signed by the Ladies' Hat Manufacturers Protective Association and approved by the unions, giving about 1,000 milliners and straw hat makers an increase of 10 to 25 per cent. in wages and a working of 25 hours.

The agreement, it is said, declares for a continuance of the amicable relations which have existed between the manufacturers and the workers. No strike or lockouts are to be called, and all labor difficulties are to be referred to a board of arbitration.

Silk Exposition Here in May.

The silk trade, represented by a committee of manufacturers in Paterson, N. J., has decided to cooperate with the Association of America in uniting with them in an exposition to be held in the Grand Central Palace in connection with the cotton exposition in May.

That was the year for the third silk convention, but owing to various influences which worked against it the convention did not go over until next year. Following the convention here in 1917 it is probable the silk convention will be taken back to Paterson, where it originated.

New Opinion on Alliance.

The following petitions in bankruptcy were filed in the United States District Court, Paterson:

LESTER CUMMING, INC.—Involuntary petition filed by Lester Cumming, Inc., 100 Main Street, Paterson, N. J.

WATERHOUSE, BROWN & Peck Co., H. Miller (representative), 1100 Broadway.

BOSTON.—Lavin Colman & Co., Lavin (carpets and rugs), Hotel Continental.

CHICAGO.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

DETROIT.—H. H. D. Fleming Co., H. H. D. Fleming ready to wear, 404 Fourth Avenue.

INDIANAPOLIS.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

KANSAS CITY.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

MINNEAPOLIS.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

NEW YORK.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

PHILADELPHIA.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

ST. LOUIS.—John Wanamaker, 404 Fourth Avenue.

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